

Message Text

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ORIGIN DEAE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07

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DEA HEADQUARTERS

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TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 251101

E.O. 11652; GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TU, EG

SUBJECT: UD-76-0010 DERSVIS DELIBELTA

REF: (A) STATE 221539, (B) DEA 22465, (C) ANKARA 6028,

(D) CAIRO 10658, (E) CAIRO 12675

1) EMBASSY EFFORTS TO HAVE EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES OFFICIALLY
REPORT ARRESTS OF TURKISH NATIONALS AND SEIZURE OF
198 KILOS OPIUM TO TURKISH AUTHORITIES ARE VERY MUCH
APPRECIATED.

2) DEA ADVISED THAT PRIOR TO 1972 WHEN OPIUM PRODUCTION
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ENDED IN TURKEY AND DURING SEVERAL DECADES OF HEAVY

TRAFFICKING OF TURKISH OPIUM TO EGYPT AND LATER IRAN, THIS PROBLEM WAS SUBJECT OF VERY EMOTIONAL AND OFTEN BITTER DEBATES AT UN CND AND ICPO GENERAL ASSEMBLIES. EGYPTIAN AND IRANIAN REPORTING OF SEIZURES TO TURKISH

AUTHORITIES WAS USUALLY UNTIMELY AND INCOMPLETE. TURKISH RESPONSES, IF THEY WERE MADE AT ALL, WERE USUALLY UNTIMELY AND UNRESPONSIVE.

3) DEA AND ITS PREDECESSOR AGENCY TRADITIONALLY AVOIDED BECOMING AN INTERMEDIARY OF MESSAGES BETWEEN THE PARTIES CONCERNED. SOME EXCEPTIONS WERE MADE WHERE THERE WAS A DIRECT US GOVERNMENT INTEREST IN THE INVESTIGATION. TURKISH AUTHORITIES HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO EXPECT TO BE INFORMED OFFICIALLY OF FACTS IN DELIBELTA CASE BY THE EGYPTIANS AND UNLESS SO INFORMED BY EGYPTIANS THEY ARE TECHNICALLY WITHIN THEIR RIGHTS TO TAKE NO OFFICIAL ACTION IN THIS MATTER. EGYPTIANS SHOULD NOT EXPECT TURKS TO TAKE ACTION ON INFORMATION PASSED BY DEA IN THIS MATTER.

4) WHILE MUCH TIME HAS ALREADY ELAPSED IT IS STILL NOT TOO LATE IN OUR JUDGMENT, FOR THE EGYPTIAN CENTRAL NATIONAL BUREAU OF ICPO-INTERPOL AT CAIRO TO TRANSMIT A REPORT ON THIS CASE WITH A REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION TO THE INTERPOL CENTRAL NATIONAL BUREAU OF THE TURKISH NATIONAL POLICE IN ANKARA. THE CHIEF OF THE EGYPTIAN CENTRAL NATIONAL BUREAU SHOULD ALSO SEND A COPY OF THE REPORT TO THE ICPO CENTRAL SECRETARIAT ST. CLOUD, FRANCE AND INDICATE THIS DISTRIBUTION ON A REPORT SENT TO ANKARA.

5) AS AN ADDITIONAL MEANS OF INSURING PROPER FOLLOW-UP BY TURKISH AUTHORITIES, THE FOLLOWING MIGHT ALSO BE CONSIDERED BY EGYPTIANS. THE EGYPTIAN REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CND MIGHT TRANSMIT IN AN INFORMAL-OFFICIAL LETTER THE FACTS ON THIS CASE TO THE TURKISH REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CND AND ASK THAT HE USE HIS GOOD OFFICES TO HAVE AN APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED AND ADVISE HIM OF THE RESULTS.

IN ADDITION TO THE SAMPLE OF OPIUM SEIZURE BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO THE USG FOR DEA ANALYSES, THE EGYPTIAN
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AUTHORITIES SHOULD TRANSMIT A SAMPLE TO THE UNITED NATIONS LABORATORY IN GENEVA WHICH IS EQUIPPED AND QUALIFIED TO DETERMINE WHETHER SAMPLE IS OF TURKISH ORIGIN. IN FACT, UN LAB WAS ESTABLISHED ABOUT 1948 TO COMPARE SEIZED OPIUM SAMPLES WITH KNOWN OPIUM SAMPLES PROVIDED BY OPIUM PRODUCING COUNTRIES. CHANCES ARE GOOD THAT UN LAB CAN IDENTIFY SAMPLE EASILY IF IT IS TURK, IRANIAN, AFGHAN, PAK OR INDIAN. ROBINSON

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